

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A discrimination medium comprising:

a cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a circular polarization light selectivity of reflecting predetermined circularly polarized light as a first reflection light, the cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a side to which natural light may enter; and

a multilayer film having a stacked structure in which first light transparent films having a first refraction index and second light transparent films having a second refraction index are alternately laminated in a thickness direction, the first light transparent film and the second light transparent film have an interface therebetween, and the interface repeatedly exists and reflects light so as to generate interfering light,

wherein the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the multilayer film is provided are arranged in this order in a direction in which to a side opposite to the side to which natural light may enter the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, the multilayer film reflects the interfering light as a second reflection light, and the discrimination medium is discriminated by using the first reflection light and the second reflection light.

when the discrimination medium is viewed at a predetermined angle, the first reflection light reflected by the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the second reflection light reflected by the multilayer film are approximately equal to or different from each other in color.

the first reflection light is circularly polarized light having a predetermined center wavelength and a predetermined polarization direction, and

the second reflection light includes circularly polarized light having a circularly polarized direction opposite to that of the first reflection light.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, further comprising a figure provided to at least a portion of one of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the multilayer film.

5. (Original) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the multilayer film is subjected to hologram working or embossing.

6. (Previously Presented) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, further comprising an interlayer peeling structure or a peeling breaking structure.

7. (Previously Presented) An article to be discriminated comprising the discrimination medium according to claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A discrimination method for discriminating a discrimination medium, the discrimination medium comprising:

 a cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a circularly polarized light selectivity of reflecting predetermined circularly polarized light as a first reflection light, the cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a side to which natural light may enter; and

 a multilayer film having a stacked structure in which first light transparent films having a first refraction index and second light transparent films having a second refraction index are alternately laminated in a thickness direction, the first light transparent film and the second light transparent film have an interface therebetween, and the interface repeatedly exists and reflects light so as to generate interfering light,

 wherein the multilayer film is provided to a side opposite to the side to which natural light may enter the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, the multilayer film reflects the interfering light as a second reflection light, and the discrimination medium is discriminated by using the first reflection light and the second reflection light,

when the discrimination medium is viewed at a predetermined angle, the first reflection light reflected by the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the second reflection light reflected by the multilayer film are approximately equal to or different from each other in color,

the first reflection light is circularly polarized light having a predetermined center wavelength and a predetermined polarization direction, and

the second reflection light includes circularly polarized light having a circularly polarized direction opposite to that of the first reflection light,

the discrimination method comprising:

allowing a predetermined circularly polarized light to selectively pass through an optical filter, and

detecting light that passes through the optical filter,

wherein the discrimination medium is viewed via the optical filter.

9. (Currently Amended) A discrimination method for discriminating a discrimination medium, the discrimination medium comprising:

a cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a circularly polarized light selectivity of reflecting predetermined circularly polarized light as a first reflection light, the cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a side to which natural light may enter; and

a multilayer film having a stacked structure in which first light transparent films having a first refraction index and second light transparent films having a second refraction index are alternately laminated in a thickness direction, the first light transparent film and the second light transparent film have an interface therebetween, and the interface repeatedly exists and reflects light so as to generate interfering light,

wherein the multilayer film is provided to a side opposite to the side to which natural light may enter the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, the multilayer film reflects the

interfering light as a second reflection light, and the discrimination medium is discriminated by using the first reflection light and the second reflection light,

when the discrimination medium is viewed at a predetermined angle, the first reflection light reflected by the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the second reflection light reflected by the multiple film are approximately equal to or different from each other in color,

the first reflection light is circularly polarized light having a predetermined center wavelength and a predetermined polarization direction, and

the second reflection light includes circularly polarized light having a circularly polarized direction opposite to that of the first reflection light,

the discrimination method comprising:

irradiating with predetermined circularly polarized light on the discrimination medium, and

viewing reflection light reflected by the discrimination medium.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A discrimination apparatus for discriminating a discrimination medium, the discrimination medium comprising:

a cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a circularly polarized light selectivity of reflecting predetermined circularly polarized light as ~~first a-a~~ first reflection light, the cholesteric liquid crystal layer having a side to which natural light may enter; and

a multilayer film having a stacked structure in which first light transparent films having a first refraction index and second light transparent films having a second refraction index are alternately laminated in a thickness direction, the first light transparent film and the second light transparent film have an interface therebetween, and the interface repeatedly exists and reflects light so as to generate interfering light,

wherein the multilayer film provided to a side opposite to the side to which natural light may enter the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, the multilayer film reflects the interfering light as a second reflection light, and the discrimination medium is discriminated by using the first reflection light and the second reflection light,

when the discrimination medium is viewed at a predetermined angle, the first reflection light reflected by the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the second reflection light reflected by the multilayer film are approximately equal to or different from each other in color,

the first reflection light is circularly polarized light having a predetermined center wavelength and a predetermined polarization direction, and

the second reflection light includes circularly polarized light having a circularly polarized direction opposite to that of the first reflection light,

the discrimination apparatus comprising:

a light irradiation device irradiating predetermined circularly polarized light on the discrimination medium; and

a detector detecting reflection light which is reflected by the discrimination medium.

12. (New) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, wherein the second reflection light is shut by an optical filter allowing only the first reflection light to pass therethrough when a discrimination medium is viewed through the optical filter.

13. (New) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, wherein the cholesteric liquid crystal layer is formed with a hologram,

the hologram is not viewed and the second reflection light is viewed when a discrimination medium is viewed through an optical filter allowing only circularly polarized light having inverse polarization direction of the first reflection light to pass therethrough, and

color of the second reflection light changes when the discrimination medium is inclined.

14. (New) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, wherein the multilayer film is formed with a hologram,

the hologram is not viewed when a discrimination medium is viewed through an optical filter allowing only the first reflection light to pass therethrough, and

the hologram is viewed when a discrimination medium is viewed through an optical filter allowing only circularly polarized light having inverse polarization direction of the first reflection light to pass therethrough.

15. (New) The discrimination medium according to claim 1, wherein the cholesteric liquid crystal layer is formed with a first hologram,

the multilayer film is formed with a second hologram,

the first and second holograms are viewed in overlapping each other when a discrimination medium is directly viewed,

the first hologram is selectively viewed when a discrimination medium is viewed through an optical filter allowing only the first reflection light to pass therethrough, and

the second hologram is selectively viewed when a discrimination medium is viewed through an optical filter circularly polarized light having inverse polarization direction of the first reflection light to pass therethrough.